

HOW CHRIST ADMINISTERS HIS CHURCH



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- A wrong understanding - due to the truth being defiled over time, what society tells us is important. *Romans 12:2* "do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind“
- God's perfect pattern (God's word) – not a pattern we think best
- We need to look at the perfect example (The early church)
- We want to experience the fullness of Christ (**Eph 5**)
- We want to see the church built up (**Eph 5**)
- We want to glorify Christ
- We have not arrived yet – We want to Build

WHY?



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CHRIST

Chief Cornerstone & The Foundation
Head of The Church
He Will Build It His Church

Eph 2:20, 1 Cor 3:11
Eph 5:23, Col 1:18
Mat 16:16-18

Christ Ascended Ministries

Apostles
Prophets
Teachers
Evangelists
Pastors
Eph 4:11-13
1 Cor 12:28

The Saints (Priesthood of all Believers)

- Equipping of the saints
- For the work of the ministry
- For the building of his church
- To bring the church into the unity of the faith
- To bring the church into knowing Christ
- To mature the church
- To bring the church into Christ's fullness

Offices

Elders
Bishop/Pastor
1 Tim 3:1-7
Tit 1:5-9

Deacons
1 Tim 3:8-13

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So where do I fit in?

What characterised the early church?

Examples for us in the early church.

What every believed has received (spiritual gifts)

What am I to do with what I have received



What Characterised the early church?

- Unity, Fellowship and Breaking of Bread - Acts 2:42-47
- Fervent Prayer and Dependence on God
- Generosity and Care. Sacrificial giving
- Passionate about spreading the gospel
- Walking in Holiness and the Fear of the Lord
- Operation of the 5-fold ministries
- Miracles, signs, and wonders
- Evidence of the Spiritual Gifts
- Persecution and Suffering
- Perseverance and Endurance
- God's Blessing - Rapid growth - As He added to the church.

Examples in the early church

- 2 Corinthians 8:1-5 - **Generosity** of the Church of Macedonia (under great trial and affliction)
- Lydia (Acts 16) - A seller of purple - hosted Paul and his companions. **Hospitality**
- Phoebe (Rom 16) - Commended by Paul for her **service and support**. **Served and encouraged**
- Aquila and Priscilla (Rom 16) - A married couple who worked alongside Paul in ministry, hosting churches in their home and providing support. **Faithful Hospitality**
- Onesiphorus (2 Tim) - Showed kindness to Paul while he was imprisoned. **Showed kindness**
- Gaius (Rom 16) - A host to Paul and a supporter of the church in Corinth. **Hospitality**
- Junia (Rom 16) - A fellow prisoner with Paul who was well known among the apostles.
- Mary (Rom 16) - A hard worker in the Lord's service who was commended by Paul. **Served**
- Andronicus and Junia (Rom 16:7) - Relatives of Paul who were fellow prisoners with him and were esteemed among the apostles. **Suffered with Paul**
- Nympha (Col 4) - A believer in Laodicea who hosted a church in her home.
- Tychicus (Col 4) - A beloved brother and **faithful** minister who carried Paul's letters to various churches.
- Epaphras (Col 1:7) - A fellow servant and minister who **worked tirelessly** for the believers in Colossae.
- Aristarchus (Colossians 4:10) - Fellow prisoner with Paul, worked alongside him, spreading the gospel.

Spiritual Gifts – For Every Believer

To each has been given a measure

- *Ephesians 4:7* "But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift."
- *Romans 12:3* "For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith."

To each has been given spiritual gifts

- *1 Corinthians 12:7* "But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all."
- *1 Peter 4:10-11* "As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

Administration of the Gifts – For Every Believer

Spiritual Gifts

Ephesians 4

Apostles
Prophets
Teachers
Evangelists
Pastors

Romans 12

Prophecy
Service
Teaching
Exhortation
Giving
Leadership
Mercy

1 Corinthians 12

Word of Wisdom
Word of Knowledge
Faith
Gifts of Healing
Working of Miracles
Prophecy
Discerning of Spirits
Different Kinds of Tongues
Interpretation of Tongues

Administration of the Gifts – For Every Believer

We must use them (being faithful stewards of the gifts)

- *Romans 12:6* "Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, **let us use them:**"
- *Matthew 25:14-30. v 23* His lord said to him, 'Well done, **good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things**, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.'
- *1 Peter 4:10-11* "As each one has received a gift, **minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.**

Administration of the Gifts – For Every Believer

We are not to be ignorant of the gifts

- *1 Corinthians 12:1* "Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, **I do not want you to be ignorant.**"

We are to earnestly desire the gifts (covert)

- *1 Corinthians 12:31* "**But earnestly desire the best gifts.** And yet I show you a more excellent way."

All must be done in the “more excellent way”

1 Corinthians 12:31 "**But earnestly desire the best gifts. And yet I show you a more excellent way.**"

Ephesians 4:12-16, 1 Cor 13:1-7